

Governing Board

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Thank you to the
Webmaster for both
CRVC and CCC,
Dave Shehane,
for his time and talent in
posting our Trailblazer.

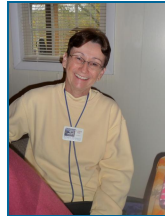
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The Trailblazer is a publication of the Chinook Camping Club

September 2011

President's Message



It has been months and months since we have been together. Thank heavens we are only a month away from our October Annual Rally & Meeting.

We're looking forward to seeing you all there and from what Arline & Alvin have told me, we have a nice size group expected.

We will be reviewing our bylaws revision and want to remind you to print a copy to bring to the meeting. Please spend a few moments to look them over before you arrive. This will be a real time-saver!

So for now, get your Chinook ready to roll to Southaven, MS! We'll be seeing you soon.

Sincerely, Eileen Disbrow



Don Phillips new club decal

Member Generated Alaska Caravan Approaches!

Some members of both the Eastern and Western clubs have been busy making plans for the proposed caravan to Alaska.

As you may imagine, planning this trip is no easy task. Hours have gone into research, presentations and interviewing members and friends who have made the trip in the past.

Tentative plans schedule the trip beginning in July of 2012 and lasting approximately 6 weeks.

Those making the trek will meet in Great Falls, Montana during early July and begin the journey from there. Members traveling from distance areas may be able to meet up with other members along the way and continue on to Great Falls together.

A full itinerary has been compiled by Bob & Marcia Schleif and members interested should plan to attend the winter rally to be held at Flamingo Lake RV Resort in Jacksonville, FL. The dates for that rally are January 26-29, 2012. (Details on rally page).



The topic of the cost of the trip can't be avoided but it might be a "once in a lifetime" opportunity for many. Early estimates traveling from Florida to make the round trip are approximately \$12,000 including ferries, campgrounds, sight seeing, fuel and food. This will depend on your personal travel habits and activities you choose.

NORTH TO ALASKA.....CHINOOKS SIGHTED!

Terry Wilson and salmon caught in Alaska!



Bill Stormont on his Alaska trip August 2009

For additional rally information, to suggest a rally site, or host a rally in your area please contact Alvin & Arline Cantrell our rally VP's.

taco@windstream.net

770-345-6484 or

770-880-9369



Membership Info:

Nita Wilkinson

VP, Membership

chinookcampingclub@cox.net

Chinook Camping Club

Saw your coach—please come join us for fun, family, and to learn more about your CHINOOK!

www.chinookrvclub.net
chinookcampingclub@cox.net
Nita Wilkinson, VP Membership



Annual Rally & Meeting—EZ Daze RV Resort—Oct. 11-14

On October 11th we will gather at EZ Daze RV Resort in Southaven, MS for our Annual Rally & Meeting. Elections for officers for the coming year will take place during the meeting which will follow our Pot Luck Dinner the first night.

On the agenda is also the review of our club bylaws, plans for future rally sites and of course, the financial reports from our treasurer.

During the rally we will have the opportunity to tour the area, visit with friends and enjoy the hospitality of the resort and staff. Our "open house" will be held once again for all to see the wonderful innovations in our member's units. And who can forget our delicious breakfast?

The highlight of the rally will be our Club Luncheon at "The Boiling Point" Restaurant which is just over 1/2 mile from the resort. The restaurant will host our group on Thursday, Oct. 13th at 1:00 pm.

And if you are on your way to Washington State....

Our Membership VP Nita, and husband Klaus made a trip to Washington state in their new Chinook. On the trip ticket was a stop at "Aubreys RV Center" in Union Gap, WA. Aubreys acquired some of the left-over parts stock from Trailwagons/Chinook.

Nita and Klaus treated themselves to new windows and they were very pleased with the results and



the service provided.

Other members have also ordered parts and they have all reported receiving excellent customer service from Carolyn and the staff Aubreys.



MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS NOW!

Fall Annual Rally & Meeting

October 11–14, 2011

EZ Daze RV Resort, Southaven, MS

www.ezdazervpark.com 1-877-377-9577

Winter Florida Escape

January 26–29, 2012

Flamingo Lake RV Resort, Jacksonville, FL

www.flamingolake.com 1-800-782-4323



A MESSAGE FROM YOUR RALLY VP's

Hi Chinook Friends,

We are looking forward to our upcoming rally at EZ Daze RV Resort. The response to this rally has been wonderful and at this time we anticipate the arrival of 28 Chinooks! Look forward to seeing some new faces as we welcome some first time attendees.

In Jan. 2012 we will have our winter rally at Flamingo Lake in Jacksonville, FL. Dates for this rally are Jan. 26-29. The club had a rally here in Jan. 09 and many people asked about having another rally there in the future. One nice feature, along with the great meeting room, is the "Sunrise Café". It is the perfect place to meet with friends and grab a bite to eat. During this rally members planning to make the Alaska Caravan will meet to finalize their plans.

This Spring we'll visit a fairly new resort in Roanoke Rapids, NC. The RV Resort at Carolina Crossroads is a good overnight stop for RV'ers traveling Interstate 95. The resort offers the type facilities we need to gather so come out and support the club for a relaxing "after winter" break!

Some of our club members will be taking advantage of the Alaska Caravan and also the Branson "Joint" Rally. For this reason, we will limit our schedule for 2012 to three rallies. This will allow members the time to participate in the other special events. Deer Creek RV Resort in Galax, VA has been booked once again for our Fall Annual Rally in 2012. A gorgeous location to capture the crisp days of the fall.

As always, if you are willing to host a rally, please let Eileen or me know. If you think you have found a good park, please check out the amenities in the park to make sure there is a place we can meet, bathrooms are clean and accessible, and the price is affordable. We also want to thank Don & Jo Phillips for lending a hand to us in our rally planning

We hope to see you at many of these rallies. It's always like a meeting of good friends when the club gets together and we miss you when you aren't there or when we can't attend.

Arline Cantrell

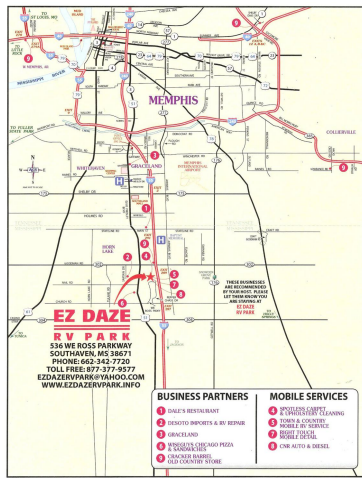




Annual Fall Rally and Meeting - EZ Daze RV Resort

October 11th to 14th, 2011

536 WE Ross Pkwy, Southaven, MS 38671



Come join us for our annual fall rally! Don't miss out on the fun and excitement the nearby Memphis area has to offer.

We will hold our Annual Meeting and Election of Officers at this rally.

There will be plenty of time to sight see and relax with your Chinook friends!

JOIN US FOR LUNCH AT THE BOILING POINT RESTAURANT

Make your reservations now by calling toll-free : 1-877-377-9577

Be sure to mention you are with the
Chinook Camping Club!

EZ DAZE
RV PARK

TAKE A SIDE TRIP TO TUNICA, MS by Diane Cremens



About 25 miles south of Memphis, TN, is the Tunica Resorts Area. In the 1990's, Mississippi approved casinos in poverty stricken Tunica County and the casinos grew out of the cotton fields. Currently there are nine casinos scattered in an area of approximately 10 miles. As you approach Tunica from the north from Memphis on US Highway 61, the first casino you will come upon is Harrah's. Harrah's is the largest and has a Good Sam RV Park for around \$14.00 per night.

If you go southwest from Harrah's on Old Hwy 61, you will come to Bally's and then to Casino Center that consists of the Gold Strike, Horseshoe and the Roadhouse. There are no RV parks affiliated with these casinos and sometimes, especially on weekends, RV parking is prohibited.

To reach the other casinos, travel down Old Hwy 61. Fitz is the only casino located directly on the Mississippi River. It looks like a huge castle and allows overnight RV parking. It is just down the road from Tunica Riverpark and the Tunica Queen boat. The Riverpark was damaged in the floods and is currently closed due to remodeling.

Southwest of the Fitz is the Casino Strip area and Sam's Club, Hollywood, and Resorts, all on Hwy 305. Hollywood and Sam's Town both have RV Parks, although Sam's is still closed from the flooding. All the casino RV parks have full hook-ups, cable, wi-fi and nice restrooms and are quite reasonable.

There is more to do in the Tunica Area besides gambling (and eating buffets). There are three golf courses, Cottonwoods at Harrah's, River Bend Links at the end of Hwy 305 next to Hollywood, and Tunica National, not affiliated with any casino. We have played Tunica National and River Bend Links (temporarily closed due to the flooding). In warmer weather, it is fun to watch the birds and turtles in the ponds. Check their websites for specials.

South of the casino area is the town of Tunica, a small town with some antique shops, an Arena Expo Center and a museum. The Expo Center has concerts, rodeos, trade shows, horse shows. etc. and an RV park. There is a visitor's center south of Harrah's on US 61. It is the start of the Mississippi Blues Trail and has much information about the area. North of the visitor's center is an outlet mall if you would rather part with your money and get something for it!





FLAMINGO LAKE RV RESORT

January 26th to 29th, 2012



Welcome back to Flamingo Lake RV Resort for our 2012 Winter Rally!

Conveniently located, right off of I-295 at Exit 32 in Jacksonville

Flamingo Lake RV Resort offers your choice of sites, regular or lakefront! Reserve early to have your choice!

Beautiful surroundings, clubhouse, café and sandy beach on the lakefront.

Visit nearby St. Augustine, Amelia Island, Jacksonville Beach or the attractions of downtown Jacksonville.

We had a wonderful time at Flamingo Lake back in 2009, let's do it again!

Reserve now by calling toll-free: 1-800-782-4323

SPRING RALLY

The RV Resort @ Carolina Crossroads

Get ready to shake off the winter cobwebs and meet your friends for some fun and relaxation at this pristine resort located just off of I-95 at exit 171.

RALLY DATES: APRIL 19-22, 2012

- Free Wifi
 - Free Cable
 - Pet Area
 - Hot Tubs
 - Outdoor Pool Table
- Nightly Rate: \$33.75



To reserve call: 252-538-9776

MEMBER TRAVELOGUE

Isle Royale National Park

By Sally Arnold

Located in Keweenaw County, in Michigan's Upper Peninsula, Isle Royale National Park located near the southern border of Canada, the eastern border of Minnesota, and the northeastern border of Wisconsin.

Travel can be so many different things, but for this Chinook family, we like the wild and natural outdoors with lots of animals. So, Terry and I have proceeded to try to visit all of the National Parks in our beautiful Country. We have visited most of them and so on our dwindling list Isle Royale and Voyageurs were left and fairly close together. So they became the destination of our fall trip 2010, planning a big circle that included a lot of destinations along the way.

The park that I'll talk about on this visit is Isle Royale and we accessed it from Grand Portage, MN. Grand Portage is home of the Ojibwe people and reflects their culture, along with beautiful Lake Superior. There is a casino there, but we never visited it because we don't have very good luck when it comes to gambling. The Marina and RV Park is home to boats and campers, but only for 10 sites with full hook-ups and a comfort station with restrooms and showers (not great). Thank goodness for our little Chinook home.



When we arrived they had no spots left, but after talking with the young man in the bait/marina shop; he managed to provide us with the most beautiful spot in the whole area! Right on the water's edge with beavers and otters playing under the docks and building their den. They were busy going out the small inlet, swimming down the shore a little, chomping down a tree and dragging it back to their home. The vista was beautiful and the cove was quiet and still we were all to ourselves.

The only way to visit Isle Royale is to go by boat and we chose the Wenonah. The boat leaves early and there is only one over and back a day (I think). We were at the Windigo side of the island. They have self-guided trails and also a Ranger guided walk. There isn't anything except a gift shop, small museum building, and bathrooms; maybe a few cabins for staff but it isn't a luxurious island resort. The kids love it and there were scout troops and a lot of young people. You need to be in really good shape for all of the hiking and primitive camping, but don't be afraid to go for the day trip.

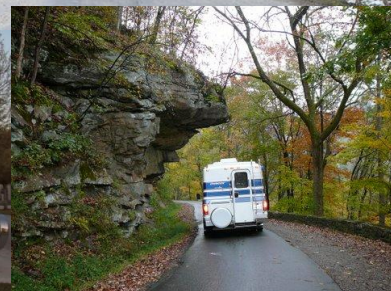
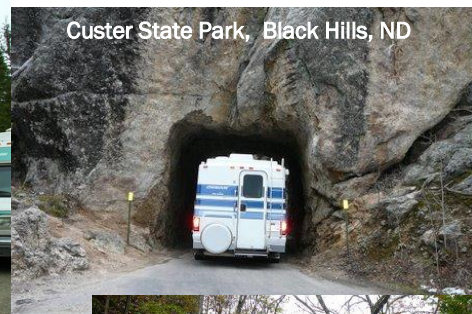
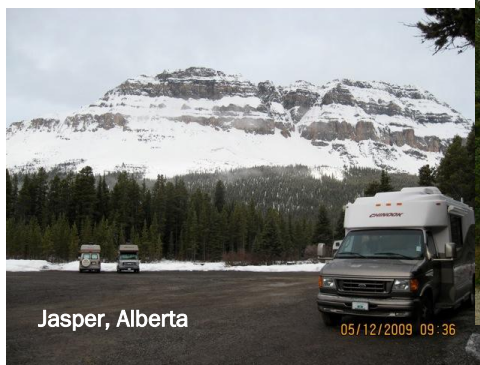


The flora and fauna is great and the boat ride nice, with lots to see. Plan for exposure to sun and heat if it's summer, but it can be cold and rainy too on the boat ride, so be prepared.

One thing that surprised me was that there are a lot of islands on the way out to Isle Royale. There are shipwrecks and a light house too, Lake Superior is a very treacherous body of water. Hope you get to visit, it's not a Yellowstone or Yosemite, but is still worth the visit.



For more information on Isle Royale: <http://www.nps.gov/isro/index.htm>



CHINOOKS GALORE



VP of Membership News

As of 2 Sep 2011, we have 103 members, 9 new families since our last newsletter. Very soon, 300 different Chinook owners belonged to our club at one time or another.

Don't forget to share your Chinook Camping Club info cards with Chinooks you find on the road, in parking lots, and in campgrounds. If you need some, just give me a call.

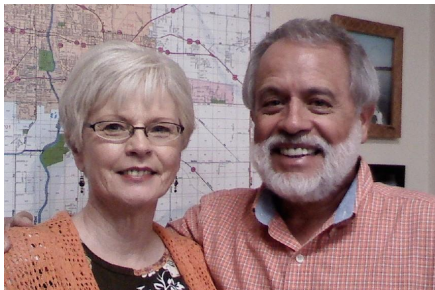
Nita Wilkinson, VP Membership

Our Newest Members:

- ◆ Herb & Carol Hartman – Sweetwater, NJ
- ◆ Jan Lucie - Annapolis, MD
- ◆ Terry & Gail Wilson - Leesburg, GA
- ◆ John & Nancy Cross - Hendersonville, TN
- ◆ Amy Jo Smith - Gainesville, FL
- ◆ Anthony & Barbara Burt - Glenmont, NY
- ◆ H. Randy Buford and Jannon LaRue - Huntsville, AL
- ◆ Keith & Nancy Williams - Corryton, TN
- ◆ Dale & Donna Yarasavage - Tunkhannock, PA

Do we have your photo yet?

Here are new members Terry & Gail Wilson



- and on a recent trip -



and Terry with his catch in Alaska!



CHINOOK CAMPING CLUB

Saw your coach and hope you join us!

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CHINOOK CHOW—RECIPES FROM THE ROAD

AUTUMN SOUP

1 lb. lean ground beef	1 chopped onion
4 cups water	1 cup, cut up carrots
1 cup, diced celery	1 cup, cubed potato
2 tsps salt	1 tsp Kitchen Bouquet
1/4 tsp pepper	1 bay leaf
1/8 tsp basil	2 cans, 14 1/2 oz., diced Italian Style tomatoes



Cook and stir meat until brown. Drain fat. Cook and stir onions with meat about 5 minutes. Stir in remaining ingredients except tomatoes. Heat to a boil. Reduce heat and simmer 20 minutes. Add tomatoes. Cover and simmer 10 minutes or longer.

Cranberry Pumpkin Bread Taste of Home Magazine

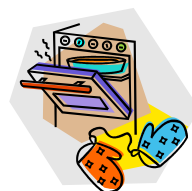
3¾ cups all-purpose flour	4 eggs	3 cups sugar
1/2 cup vegetable oil	4 tsp pumpkin pie spice	2 tsp baking soda
1 tsp salt	1 cup chopped walnuts	
15 oz. can solid pack pumpkin	2 cups, chopped cranberries	



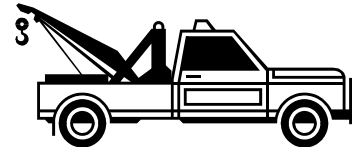
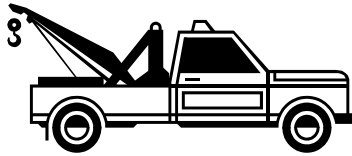
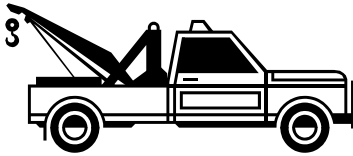
In a large bowl, combine flour, sugar, pumpkin pie spice, baking soda and salt. In another bowl, beat eggs, pumpkin and oil; stir into dry ingredients until just moistened. Fold in cranberries and walnuts. Spoon into 2 greased, 9x5x3 loaf pans. Bake at 350° for 70-80 minutes (test after 65 minutes...). Cool for 10 minutes before removing from pan. Freezes well.

Mary Mahoney's Bread Pudding

6 slices day old raisin/cinnamon bread	4 eggs
1 tsp cinnamon	2 TBLS plus 1/2 cup sugar
1/2 cup raisins	2 cups milk
2 TBLS butter, melted	1 tsp, vanilla extract



Break bread into small pieces in a 1½ quart baking dish. Sprinkle cinnamon over bread, add raisins and melted butter. Lightly toast bread mixture in the oven at 350°. Once toasted, add mixture of eggs, sugar, milk and vanilla after whisking together well. Bake about 30-40 minutes until solid.



MEMBER MAINTENANCE TIPS . . . OR THINGS WE LEARN THE HARD WAY

HEY, I'M THIRSTY!

With a little extra care your RV will be the source of fun and relaxation for many years. Fluids are the “lifeblood” of our Chinooks. The engine needs adequate fluid to run at its best, just like you do.

Checking all your fluid levels in the engine compartment should be a regular part of your pre-travel routine. Inspect the fluid levels of your vehicle’s engine oil, coolant, power steering fluid, transmission fluid, brake fluid and windshield washer fluid. Check your Ford/Chevy owner’s manual to familiarize yourself with each reservoir’s specific location. Simply check each reservoir level, topping off where needed.



If you use lead acid batteries, be sure to replenish with distilled water; just be careful not to overfill the cells. Sealed batteries are considered ‘maintenance free’.

Now and then take a look under your Chinook for signs of any “mystery fluids” on the concrete or ground. Check under the engine, axles and storage compartments. If you’ve been running the A/C, the fluid may simply be condensation. If the fluid is light green, feels like baby oil and smells sweet, it’s probably antifreeze/coolant—harmful to our pets, keep them away. If the fluid has a slight rusty color, or contains rust colored particles, it could indicate that the cooling system has been neglected and you may consider having the cooling system flushed as soon as possible.

Fuel leaks look mostly clear, evaporate quickly and have a distinct odor. Brake fluid leaks can be diagnosed by looking for a clear fluid with the consistency of baby oil that has a faint odor of alcohol. Motor oil tends to puddle on top of the pavement and is slippery fluid, usually brown or black in color. If the mystery fluid is pink or red, it is usually either automatic transmission fluid or power steering fluid, although, some power steering fluids are clear.

If you find a leak, do your best to find the source of the problem. In any case, whether you are a do-it-yourself type, or whether you have a trusted mechanic, do not ignore the problem. Getting problems fixed ASAP will avert further problems down the road!

(Credit: Excerpts from Paul & Kerri Elders “Tech Topics/RV Fluids”)



Help! I Need Fresh Air!

Every now and then a new product appears for RV’ers. Yes, we all like the toys that accompany the lifestyle. Recently we saw an ad from “Dometic” for a compact, portable air purifier, the “Breathe Easy Purifier”.

The ad states the “Breathe Easy Purifier” is portable and lightweight, can be used anywhere and is designed to be used in RV’s, boats, trucks, homes and pet areas. Also that it may reduce problems due to allergies, asthma and chemical sensitivities. It also eliminates odors, enhances air quality and will reduce mold spores, mildew, viruses, bacteria and fumes.

It is compact and can treat up to 800 cubic feet of air. Currently retails for \$129.00-\$149.00

For complete information on the above product: <http://www.breatheeasyairpurifier.com/default.asp>

BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY WISHES

BIRTHDAYS

SEPTEMBER

Mary Sands Dick Sands
Jean Younger Darnell Farris
Jo Phillips Terry Wilson

OCTOBER

Larry Dennison
Alice Sanders Alvin Cantrell

NOVEMBER

Frank Forte



ANNIVERSARIES

SEPTEMBER

OCTOBER

NOVEMBER

*ARE WE MISSING YOUR
ANNIVERSARY?*

*WE HAVE NONE ON FILE
FOR THESE 3 MONTHS*



SOME FAVORITES

From past surveys, here is a list of some of our members favorite campgrounds and locales to visit:

Huntsville, AL

Gettysburg, PA

Pigeon Forge, TN

Holiday Trav-L- Park, Emerald Isle, NC

Normandy Farms, Foxboro, MA

Pocono Mountains—Otter Lake CG, Delaware
Water Gap KOA and Mountain Vista CG

James River SP, near Appomattox, VA

Harpers Ferry KOA, Harpers Ferry, WV

Vermont

Indiana

We want to remember all of our members who are currently recovering from illness and surgery.

Please let us know if you are in need of a little sunshine! Our members are some of the most thoughtful and caring friends you could ever want to meet!



SUNSHINE CORNER

Kind words are the music of the world.



IMPORTANT NOTICE

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2012 CLUB DUES ARE DUE BY NOVEMBER 1ST, 2011 -- \$35.00 PER COACH

Please make your check payable to: "Chinook Camping Club"
and mail to:

Chinook Camping Club
Jim Runyon, Treasurer
8243 The Midway
Annandale, VA 22003-3716



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